

[25 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Neglect of Moghul era tombs in Ghaziabad

† *576. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news-item published in the 'Amar Ujala' dated 7th March, 2001 with regard to neglect of tombs of Moghul era situated at Ghaziabad;

(b) if so, Government's response with regard to these tombs;

(c) whether Government propose to take any steps for their proper maintenance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Under the Constituion, the protection of historical monuments is the shared responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. Only monuments of exceptional architectural, archaeological and historical importance are protected by the Central Government. Having regard to the architectural, archaeological and historical importance of the monuments referred to, it is not proposed to bring them under Central protection.

Study on expansion and development of the textile industry

† *577. DR. D. MASTHAN:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study has been carried out by Government to find out the possibilities of expansion and development of the textiles industry in the country;

(b) if so the potential of this industry to step up production and export and also to create additional opportunities of employment; and

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government have any time-bound, target-oriented plan to exploit this potential; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) A study was carried out by an Expert Group set up in July 1998 under the Chairmanship of Shri S. R. Sathyam.

(b) and (c) Taking into account the Sathyam Committee Report, the views of Industry and concerned agencies, Government has recently formulated the National Textile Policy, 2000. To exploit the assessed potential and to make the industry globally competitive, the policy lays down, *inter alia* targets and target-oriented programmes and measures that need to be taken up. These include, importantly:

(i) increasing exports of textiles and clothing from the level of US \$11 billion in 2000 to US \$50 billion by 2010, of which the share of clothing will be US \$25 billion;

(ii) increasing cotton productivity by at least 50% and upgrading its quality to international standards, by implementation of the Technology Mission on Cotton;

(iii) implementing the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, covering all manufacturing segments of the industry, to enable the industry to attract investments to build world class manufacturing capabilities;

(iv) launching the Technology Mission on Jute to increase productivity and diversify the use of jute fibre;

(v) dereserving the garment sector; and

(vi) encouraging the setting up of integrated textile complexes and textile processing units.

The Policy also envisages that these measures would substantially increase employment in the Industry.